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Patents
Atty. Docket No. 19441.0027
Customer No. 29052

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	
Brudnicki, Myron J.	
Serial No. **09/415,467**	Group Art Unit: **1745**
Filed: **October 8, 1999**	Examiner: **Mercado, Julian A.**
For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FUEL CELL PACKAGING**	

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action mailed on September 30, 2003, the Applicant has the following amendments and remarks:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Response is being transmitted to: Technology Center 1700 via After Final Facsimile No. 703-872-9311, on November 4, 2003

Daniel J. Warren- Reg. No. 34,272

AO 1000366.1

AMENDMENTS

1. (Previously presented) A method for fuel cell packaging comprising the steps of:

providing a fuel cell receptacle with a plurality of manifolds;

providing a plurality of fuel cells, the fuel cells including top and bottom sides and ports; and

positioning the fuel cells within the fuel cell receptacle in a stack such that both the top and bottom sides of each of the fuel cells are in direct contact with the receptacle and each of the ports is interfaced with one of the manifolds.

ports not claimed in top/bottom

2. (Original) A method for fuel cell packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ports are positioned on corners of the fuel cells.

3. (Original) A method for fuel cell packaging as a claimed in claim 1, wherein the ports are positioned on both sides of the fuel cells.

4. (Original) A method for fuel cell packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein the positioning step comprises positioning the fuel cells in a staggered configuration.

5. (Original) A method for fuel cell packaging as claimed in claim 1, wherein the positioning step comprises positioning the fuel cells in a spiral configuration.

6. (Currently amended) An apparatus for fuel cell packaging comprising:

a receptacle including a plurality of port interfaces, the receptacle being shaped to receive a stack of fuel cells with ports on ~~opposing~~ top and bottom sides of the fuel cells such that the port interface directly contacts each of the ports providing individual fluidic connections between each of the ports and the port interfaces that they respectively contact.

7. (Original) An apparatus for fuel cell packaging as claimed in claim 6, wherein the receptacle is shaped to receive the fuel cells in a staggered stack.

8. (Original) An apparatus for fuel cell packaging as claimed in claim 6, wherein the receptacle is shaped to receive the fuel cells in a spiral stack.

9. (Original) An apparatus for fuel cell packaging as claimed in claim 6, wherein each of the port interfaces includes an o-ring seal.

10. - 22. (Cancelled).

23. (New) A method for fuel cell packaging comprising the steps of:

providing a fuel cell receptacle with a plurality of manifolds;

providing a plurality of fuel cells, the fuel cells including top and bottom sides and ports; and

positioning the fuel cells within the fuel cell receptacle in a stack in a spiral configuration such that both the top and bottom sides of each of the fuel cells are in direct contact with the receptacle and each of the ports is interfaced with one of the manifolds.

24. (New) An apparatus for fuel cell packaging comprising:

a receptacle including a plurality of port interfaces, the receptacle being shaped to receive a spiral stack of fuel cells with ports on opposing sides of the fuel cells such that the port interface directly contacts each of the ports providing individual fluidic connections between each of the ports and the port interfaces that they respectively contact.